



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

April 4, 2019

The Honorable Dr. Richard Pan
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for State Funding Augmentation for County Public Administrator, Public Guardian, Public Conservator Programs

Dear Chairman Pan:

The County of San Bernardino respectfully requests your support for \$68 million statewide in new, ongoing State funding to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to augment county spending for the Public Administrator, Public Conservator, and the Public Guardian programs.

The California Superior Court appoints the Public Administrator (PA) to manage the estate of a decedent without a will or without the appropriate person(s) willing or able to act as executor. The Superior Court appoints the Public Conservator (PC) and Public Guardian (PG) to be the conservator of an adult who is unable to provide their own basic personal needs due to a severe mental disorder or disabling physical condition. Once appointed, the county PA/PC/PG programs become the legal decision maker for the impaired adult, and/or their estate, with regard to health care, psychiatric care, placement and/or financial needs.

The PA/PC/PG programs are the only statewide safety net programs that do not receive any dedicated state funding. In fact, PA/PC/PG programs do not receive any state or federal funding although the majority of the individuals served by these programs qualify for Medi-Cal.

To meet the growing needs of California's aging adult population, State investment in county PA/PC/PG services is essential. The provision of State funding to annually augment, not supplant, current county spending by \$68 million statewide, will solidify services and ensure consistent services throughout the State. Additionally, enhanced spending will allow counties to increase staffing, to reduce caseload sizes; provide more intensive case management enabling better long-term treatment outcomes; and provide timelier emergency services to cognitively impaired adults.

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Public Guardian Funding

April 4, 2019

Page 2 of 2

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully requests your support for \$68 million statewide in new, ongoing State funding for county Public Administrator, Public Conservator, and Public Guardian programs. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curt Hagman", with a stylized, flowing script.

Curt Hagman

Fourth District Supervisor

Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation